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SUBJECT: JOINT WEEKA NO. 21

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MILITARY (AIR)

Red Star item on military discipline

(ARMY)

Mali President Kaita Arrives in Moscow
Chief of Military Political Directorate is Replaced
Carpenter's Space Flight

ADubs/KBJenkins/RTDavies/
JDHemenway/KSMidthun/
Col. MJNielsen/
Col. PLUrban:hp
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ACTION ASSIGNED TO:	ACTION TAKEN	
NAME OF OFFICER & OFFICE SYMBOL	DATE OF ACTION 5/31/62	DISTRIBUTIONS TO RM/R

EXTERNAL - POLITICAL

1. Khrushchev's Bulgarian Visit. The Soviets devoted a great deal of attention to Khrushchev's visit to Bulgaria, promptly publishing the full texts of the various speeches he delivered there. Although the visit apparently had some bearing on Soviet-Bulgarian relations and on internal developments in Bulgaria, it is clear that Khrushchev used his presence abroad to restate many of the standard Soviet foreign policy positions and to refurbish the image of a dynamic leader of the Socialist camp. His speeches included remarks on such varied topics as relations with Yugoslavia, increased cooperation in the Balkans, Laos, Berlin, nuclear testing, disarmament, so-called Asian and African socialism, the strength of the USSR, and the validity and workability of Marxism-Leninism. It appeared that one of the purposes of the visit was to stimulate a Balkan regional arrangement which would seek to include Yugoslavia and to develop in such a manner as to attract Greece and Turkey thereby loosening their ties with NATO.

The Joint Declaration issued upon conclusion of the visit covered a wide range of subjects. Comments on problems centering around Germany and Berlin appeared to be an effort on Khrushchev's part to inject a sense of urgency into the bilateral discussions being held with the US. Although pessimistic on disarmament, the Declaration revealed the Soviets' keen interest in such partial measures as the non-transfer of nuclear weapons and the establishment of nuclear free zones in various parts of the globe. In deference to the Chinese Communists, the Declaration condemned the occupation of Taiwan and called for Chicom presence at the UN. These comments, however, had the air of window-dressing since a subsequent comment in the Declaration sharply criticized those who "rudely distort" Marxism-Leninism while paying lip service to its principles.

2. Berlin/Germany. Although the joint Soviet-Bulgarian communique stressed continuing Soviet interest in the bilateral talks with the US, it reaffirmed the threat of a separate peace treaty and listed a full range of Soviet demands, including the fixing of the GDR-FRG border.

Earlier, Pravda, on May 19, published a rambling three-column commentary on Berlin, entitled "Access, But Not for NATO." In contrast to the joint communique with Bulgaria, Pravda made no reference to the separate peace treaty and left the impression that Bonn (not the US) presents the main obstacle to success in negotiations on Berlin. Pravda singled out the "necessity to differentiate" between military and civilian traffic when discussing access and the role of an international access organ, and indicated that the West will not be permitted to consolidate its present position by shifting GDR control over civilian access to an international body. Pravda also reiterated that any such organ would only serve as an arbiter, not administrator of access.

3. Laos. Khrushchev's May 18 speech at Pleven laid down the basic line for Soviet commentary in reaction to US troops moves into Thailand. Throughout the week the Soviet press echoed Khrushchev's critical but careful assertions that the US move increases the danger in South East Asia and these

troops will eventually be forced to leave. A Pravda "Observer" article on May 20 warned against SEATO intervention in Laos which would be bound to evoke retaliatory action by the other side." Several articles reported the number of US forces which are or will be sent to Thailand, and the fact that British, Australian, New Zealand, and Phillipine forces have also been volunteered.

Press stories also asserted that US Congressional and military circles are now promoting a policy calling for a divided Laos. The first atrocity story appeared in the form of a Peiping report that Phoumi's forces have resorted to poisoning wells in Southern Laos.

4. Visit of Modibo Keita. Modibo Keita, Head of State of the Mali Republic, arrived in Moscow for an official state visit on May 21. The rather large retinue accompanying him included State Minister of Justice Jean-Marie Kone, Foreign Minister Barema Bocoum, General-Secretary of the Youth Organization Gabou Diawara, and Minister of National Education Abdoulaye Singare. Soviet-Mali negotiations were held at the Kremlin on May 23. The composition of the Soviet negotiating group indicated that economic and cultural matters were probably the primary topic of conversation, although the announcement said that questions of the development of Soviet-Mali relations as well as questions on the world situation were discussed. One of the most notable features of Keita's public pronouncements since his arrival is his apparent commitment to Marxism-Leninism. Upon arrival, for example, he said: "The activists of our Party -- the Party of the Sudanese Union -- remember the invaluable behests of the teaching of Marxism-Leninism, by which they have been guided ever since 1946, when they made their first steps in the struggle against colonialism." He also asserted on that occasion that the government and the people of Mali have chosen the building of socialism as their high road.

5. Yugoslavia. The Embassy learned that a Yugoslav parliamentary delegation would probably visit the USSR in June and that economic negotiations between the two countries are about to be concluded. This activity is consistent with Khrushchev's speech of May 16 at Varna, where he stressed that relations between the USSR and Yugoslavia had improved to such a stage that they might be characterized as "good."

6. Spanish Strike. The spread of the strike movement in Spain has been hailed by the Soviet press for obvious reasons. However, there has been surprising caution in Soviet propaganda on the Spanish developments, as if seeking to avoid the impression that Franco's overthrow is imminent.

The explanation for Soviet propaganda restraint in responding to these developments became apparent in statements by Spanish Communist leaders published in the Soviet press. They clearly indicated their concern over the seeming lack of influence over the strike movement, stressed the need to develop a broad common front composed of all anti-Franco elements, and left a clear impression that the struggle to overthrow Franco is likely to be long.

INTERNAL - POLITICAL

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7. Leadership. In speeches at Obnova and Pleven, Bulgaria, on May 18, N. S. KHRUSHCHEV made references to the "cult of personality" and his own state of physical fitness.

In an expansive mood, he talked about his childhood experiences as an assistant sheepherder -- "It used to happen that the shepherd would send me: 'Now, Nikita, run and turn the sheep'; and I ran and turned them." He went on to joke about his youthful exertions in herding fleet-footed calves in the gadfly season and to describe how, at a later period, he used to walk three kilometers home, still wet from his job in the mines: "The capitalists gave us no bathhouse, no locker-room. Those were our working conditions. But no kind of devil, no ailment, takes me /gay animation/."

Passing to STALIN, the First Secretary asserted that "the overcoming of the consequences of the cult of personality has an exceptionally important significance." Alluding to the legendary poisoning of MOZART by the rival composer, Antonio SALIERI, he noted that in political as well as artistic life "genius is not compatible with villainy." He likened Stalin to an artillerist who shoots at his own men rather than over their heads.

Currently accepted forms of verbal tribute to Khrushchev, though not ascribing powers of "genius" to him, allow for such extensive praise as appeared in an editorial in Politicheskoye Samoobrazovaniye, a monthly journal published by the Central Committee of the CPSU (No. 5, May, 1962). Here, in a discussion entitled "An All-Party, All-People's Cause", Comrade N. S. Khrushchev is credited with having made a "significant contribution to the ideological and theoretical treasury of our Party and of the whole international Communist movement," and is mentioned by name thirty-four times in the space of nine pages.

Meanwhile, back in Moscow, the public movements of the other top leaders continued to be normal. The entire CPSU Central Committee Presidium, with the exception of Khrushchev and PODGORNY (presumably occupied with his regular duties in the Ukraine), appeared on the tribune of the Lenin Mausoleum on Saturday, May 19, during the celebration of the fortieth anniversary of the Young Pioneers. Also present were CC Central Committee Secretaries, V. V. GRISHIN, P. N. DEMICHEV, and A. N. SHELEPIN. Press photographs showed no clear order of precedence, but the grouping around Leonid BREZHNEV, the nominal head of state, ran, from the viewer's left to right, D. S. POLYANSKY, M. A. SUSLOV, Brezhnev, F. R. KOZLOV, A. I. MIKOYAN, and A. N. KOSYGIN.

The same top-leadership group, plus CC Central Committee Secretary L. F. ILYICHEV (back from Czechoslovakia), was on hand to greet First Secretary Khrushchev and his retinue at Vnukovo Airport on May 20.

A Pravda photograph of a May 23 Kremlin meeting with the Mali Republic head of state, Modibo KEITA, showed Mikoyan and Kosygin next in order of prominence to Khrushchev and Brezhnev. These were the only Presidium members present.

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8. Switch in Armed Forces Political Leadership. Defense Minister R. Ya. MALINOVSKY has written an article entitled "Urgent Questions of Educating Personnel of the USSR Armed Forces" (Red Star, May 24). The Red Star article is a condensed version of an article which will later be published in full in "Communist of the Armed Forces." In his article, Malinovsky discusses serious deficiencies in the Party's political work within the Soviet Armed Forces.

The timing of the article suggests that it may bear some relation to the release of F. I. GOLIKOV "for reasons of health" from the post of Chief of the Main Political Directorate of the Soviet Army and Fleet (Pravda, May 22). It was simultaneously announced that the Soviet Ambassador to Yugoslavia, A. A. YEPISHEV, had been made a General of the Army and appointed to replace Golikov. In his May 24 article, Malinovsky seems to be setting some targets for newly appointed General Yepishev. Rhetorically, he asks, "Is everything all right with the planning and organization of our military and political training? No, not everything. In some places it is mistakenly considered that a man, very busy with work and studies, will educate himself automatically, by gravity. Such reasoning is a serious self-deception." Malinovsky also writes that "the Main Political Directorate of the Soviet Army and Fleet will want to consider a course to improve decisively the content of its political pursuits."

Golikov, in his XXII Congress speech, had admitted that political work in the Armed Forces "still has many shortcomings and has not fulfilled the demands of the Party". In that speech, Golikov also gave a hint of the nature of some of the difficulties faced by political organizers in the Armed Forces when he criticized "far-fetched and distorted presentations" in literature, in which "sometimes elements of pacifism are tolerated. Sometimes the men of our Army and Navy are not presented objectively, they are presented as being spiritually destitute, and the constitutional principles of military regulations, exactitude, discipline, the commander's honor and authority, are presented from an intolerably incorrect perspective."

That these "distortions" might have some basis in fact is suggested by Malinovsky's insistence that political work be strengthened especially at lower command levels. His May 24 article reads: "The interests of strengthening discipline demand a continuous Party influence on all personnel in the smallest units and require that Party and Komsomol organizations give the commanders real help in the education of every soldier."

Whether there is a causal connection between Golikov's release and charges of deficiencies in the work of his political directorate does not emerge with certainty from Malinovsky's article, but it would be surprising if there were no connection between the two.

9. Fifth DOSAAF Congress. The fifth Congress of DOSAAF, the Soviet Union's para-military, civil-defense, and sports organization, opened in Moscow on May 22. Attendance at the Congress by CPSU-CC Secretary A. N. Shelepin, who headed the KGB until his XXII Congress promotion to CC Secretary, and N. R. MIRONOV, Chief of the CPSU-CC Section on Administrative Organs

(which deals with police, internal security, and judicial matters), may be taken as an indication of the range of DOSAAF activities.

Before the Congress convened, Red Star, on May 20, published an article by Lieutenant-General S. SHATILOV in which DOSAAF's civil-defense work was mentioned. Shatilov, who is a First Deputy Chairman of DOSAAF, claimed that "the majority of workers have successfully completed training according to anti-atomic defense standards (PAZ) and stage one of the program 'preparedness for anti-aircraft defense' (PVO). Now instruction of the population is being conducted in accordance with stage two of the PVO program.

The Congress was still in session on May 24.

10. Anti-Religious Campaign Continues. An article entitled "Scientific Atheist Propaganda -- an Important Educational Medium," in Party Life (No. 10, May, 1962), confirms that "recently, Party and official organs have strengthened scientific atheistic propaganda," and indicates that, "in violation of Soviet law, servants of cults often engage in religious propaganda beyond the limits of houses of worship, organize religious rites in the apartments of believers, and attract children to attend religious services in houses of worship" (Embassy's Despatch 1048, May 25).

During the week, there were practical demonstrations of how the anti-religious campaign is being carried out. Sovetskaya Moldaviya (May 20) reported that the 102-year-old Kitskanskiy (Novo-Nyametskiy-Svyato-Voznesenskiy) Monastery in Bessarabia was closed after the departure of the last monk on May 17. In Roslavl, Smolensk Oblast, according to Sovetskaya Rossiya (May 23), the brothers Vladimir and Viktor GARBUZOVYKH, members of the "Fiftier" sect, were sentenced to five and three years of imprisonment, respectively. The report of their trial explains that "people are not persecuted for their religious beliefs in our country; the brothers Garbuzovykh were prosecuted for anti-social activity, which brought harm both to the state and to those who were caught in the snare of the sectarians."

11. 500 Foreign Students in Kiev. A US Government traveler in Kiev last week was told by Intourist personnel there that there are now 500 foreign students at the "Kiev branch of Lumumba University." The Embassy's best previous estimate of foreign students in Kiev had been 300. The Embassy had not earlier heard that Lumumba University had a Kiev branch. This may merely be a turn of phrase used in Kiev to reflect the fact that most of the students come from former colonial areas.

MILITARY (AIR)

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